

Remarks

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 is amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

The rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Kovinskaya et al. (US 6,850,386) is respectfully traversed.

Kovinskaya provides for a force profile that does not vary linearly with respect to time, as shown by equation (5) at column 5, line 39. It is known that acceleration is directly proportional to force and equivalent to a first derivative of velocity with respect to time. Kovinskaya therefore does not explicitly or inherently disclose "a function that causes a first derivative with respect to time of the reference velocity to vary linearly with respect to time", which is a feature of claim 1. Accordingly, Kovinskaya does not anticipate claim 1. For the same reason, Kovinskaya does not anticipate dependent claims 2 – 3 and the corresponding claims 4 – 11.

The rejection of claims 12 – 13 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Brittner (US 6,594,105) is respectfully traversed.

Claim 12 features "a function that causes a first derivative with respect to time of the reference velocity to vary linearly with respect to time". Even if for the sake of argument that the method of claim 12 and those disclosed by Brittner are assumed to be directed to similar processes, Brittner describes acceleration using a function that does not vary linearly with respect to time (column 6, lines 21 – 22). Brittner therefore does not anticipate claim 12 because it does not explicitly or inherently disclose every element of claim 12. For the same reason, Brittner does not anticipate dependent claim 13.

Conclusion

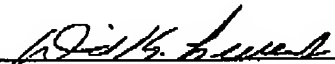
This Reply is believed to be responsive to all points raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, prompt allowance and passage of the application to issue are earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, he/she is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Seagate Technology LLC
(Assignee of the Entire Interest)

Date

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